Prov.12:27 The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting.

INTRO. The picture- a lazy sportsman roused to to prepare gun and dogs for a hunt. Has great success for he is a good shot, and he comes home with plenty of game.

But it has been a hard hunt and he is tired- too tired to cook his game. He leaves it lie there day after day until it spoils and has to be thrown out. Wasted game.

Who is that huntsman? perhaps he is not so far away. By toil and tears and by sharing in the struggles and sufferings of others our life is rich in gains. We have made personal gains: economically and socially speaking we have won valuable prizes; as a nation and as a church our trophies make an enviable display. But have we cooked what we took in the hunting? The game has been caught, but has it been used?

Let us apply our text to the various spheres of life.

I. The wasted gains of bodily life.
Take speech and sight.
Little Danny's talk
The training of the human eye.

Compare the possibility of sight to what you see and the possibility with what you say, is there not a great waste!

Was it worth while to struggle and toil as yo did to gain your sight and master your speech just to see and say the things you saw and said to-day, for instance? I think that we shall have to confess, every one of us, that we have not roasted what we took in hunting.

II. The wasted gains in our social life,
For example-friendship.
The friend we so dearly won, with such effo and sacrifice: then thru neglect we lost.

I. Wasted gains are the tragedy of homes.
Not sorrow and poverty, nor the coffin marks the tragedy. By means of these God brings back the sunshine and links again the separated hearts The tragedy is the passing of love's kindness; the sloth that lets us squander what we have ga gained- the waste of sweet gains of golden days.

III. The wasted gains of our public life.
The rights and priveleges so dearly gained. Our humblest liberties were won in battle. The charters of our rights are written in blood. And yet, how we waste them!

~~And there is our~~ right of voting ~~too~~, of moulding public life and sharing in it, ~~and~~ that was dearly bought. And hundreds of men and women are so careless that they will sit at home, or visit, or go to work, and never trouble to record their vote. (We understand all ages but our own. We grapple with all problems but the problems at our doors. We hear all cries except the cries that rise to-day from a great city's need.) It is not right. We are not roasting what we took in hunting.

IV. Wasted gains in the moral and spiritual realm.

Surely here we have not wasted. But how about the day of rest and worship-Sunday? What a bloody struggle it was to gain the right to worship freely But Every Sunday sees the open road and every inn and sport crowded with men who never think of God.
There is the open Bible, so dearly bot, yet we know that every book and paper is read before the Bible is read. I have heard it said that Alaska's Bible is Montgomery Ward's catalogue. Is not the daily newspaper practically the only reading on th part of thousands and millions?

If we have clung to our dearly fought for gain in the moral and spiritual things of life, ought w not be nearer heaven today? All the simple but fu damental lessons for right living we have to learn again, if it can be said that we ever learned them
Take the article on War in the last American.

The man who prayed while his wife was dying. The man whom I visited while sick in the hospital. But now what is God to this man? Forgotten What of eternal things? Forgotten. The tides of worldly interests have swept them away. Wasted gain.

Wasted gain! Talents Buried!

The old lady who lived a recluse in S.J. The vast sum of money found in the house. Its income could have supported her in luxury. She could have done so much good with it.

Do we not the same with our talents? One of our Savior's severest condemnations is against those persons who bury their talents instead of making use of them!

Conclusion: I charge you to remember this. squand your gains and God will take them from you. Neglect your talents and God will take them away from you! Misuse your sight, ment[illegible] ual, as well as physical, and God will deprive you of the power to see. Despise your teachings and God will not teach you any more.

But hold on, God is gracious! Tho ~~you~~ we have wasted much in life, ~~you~~ we can still gain the victory Paul gained that victory when he surrendered to Christ and became a new man. ~~You~~ We can be born again and what Paul did ~~you~~ we can do. Afterwards, Paul declared,"I can do all things thru Christ who strengtheneth me." By the grace of God we can still make use of the life's gains we so dearly won. We can still step out of our slothful lethargy to be and do the worth while things in life as God intended that we should.

To Be and To Do

In a Scotch novel by Stewart the old schoolmaster, the dominie as they called him, eagerly scanning his students for the one who will develop the mental capacity to take the honors at the great university at Edinburgh, finally discovers one in the person of a lad from a poor shepherd's home. Fearing lest the boy should be swerved from the opportunity to make his mark in this way, the old dominie says to him: "Draw a line behind you, laddie, and remember that in the grammar of life the only verbs worth conjugating are the verbs to be and to do, not to get and to enjoy."—Capt. MacNeil.

The Slothful Man